

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The methods and systems are provided that alleviate the impact of experimental systematic errors. These calibration methods and systems can be based on the discovery that by including source and detector calibration factors as part of the inverse calculation for image reconstruction, image artifacts can be significantly reduced. The novel methods and systems enhance contrast in images of the distribution of the radioactive properties of a medium, and enable improved detection of, for example, spatial variations in optical properties within highly scattering media, such as human or animal tissue. The novel methods and systems receive radiation which exits from the medium. Then, one or more optical properties of the medium are derived using the received radiation and one or more calibration factors, wherein the calibration factors are variables. Subsequently, a distribution of the optical properties in the medium is determined using the derived optical properties.